

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0128891 (“McSherry”) in view of at least U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0144238 (“Jacob”). Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Applicant respectfully submits that Jacob and the present application were commonly owned by, or subject to obligation of assignment to, Keen.Com. Since Jacob was published on February 24, 2005, after the filing date of December 14, 2001, Jacob is not a proper prior art according to 35 U.S.C. 103 (c). Thus, the withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is respectfully requested.

Further, McSherry does not disclose “determining a service provider ID code of a service provider based on a request received from the service provider”. For example, claim 1 recites:

1. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:
determining a service provider ID code of a service provider based on a request received from the service provider;
based on the determined service provider ID code, generating a list of service seekers having received advice from the service provider;
and
displaying the listing of service seekers, via a customer display screen, to enable relationship management of the listed service seekers.
[Emphasis added]

Since the prior art references do not show each and every aspects of the independent claims 1, 11, 21, 26 and 31, the dependent claims of these independent claims are also patentable over the cited references, at least for the above discussed reasons. The withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested for the pending claims.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's objections have been successfully traversed and that the application is now in order for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration of the application and allowance thereof is courteously solicited. Should the Examiner need to contact the undersigned, please do so at (650)328-8500.

Please credit any overpayments and charge any fee deficiencies to Deposit Account No. 50-2638, referencing Attorney Docket No. 76705-202001/US.

Respectfully submitted,

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